

TP1: Tartu meeting notes

Mark Wise: Teaching about Europe, EU and European Integration.

Geography survives on market terms

Demand

What sort of student – mostly UK, not many from overseas

Rarely studied Europe in school. Not a very promising market.

Students know very little or nothing about Europe. Often incorrect, moulded by mass media. Hostile to Europeanisation.

Clientele to Europeanise.

The English Language problem is a barrier to Europeanisation.

In Europe 90-100% of students study English (Eurostat, 2001)

UK students very reluctant to use Socrates Erasmus

Young British people less interested in Europe, more to exotic locations and English-speaking, instead of Europe.

Europe = middle age, middle class

Supply

What is offered?

Should we have specific European modules?

Europe? EU European integration

By country, by theme

Geog of EU

Interdisciplinary study: unifying theme of integration

Fresh way ... book: New Europe: Imagined Spaces, Donald McNeill

Could embed a European Dimension in the Geography that is taught

Should students study part of their degree course in another European country – extension of Erasmus Socrates

Lots of possibilities, problems are substantial, potential enormous. What is the best way to proceed?

Need for regional knowledge

Identify what can Geography contribute? Prepare document for the Council of Europe: implication of Geography, standards and the needs for Europe for the European Dimension

Invite Mark Wise to write a paper on the opportunities for Geography and possible approaches

Kostis Koutsopoulos: What's European about European Geography? The case of IT in Europeanisation

Ethnocentrism, Xenophobia, Curriculum

Geographical thought does not transcend culture and educational space (Buttiner)

Imperialistic bias

Reflects political orientation

Varieties of geographic senses in Europe

Values and standards can be unifying. Europeanisation is seen as a process towards **unity without uniformity (as in the US).**

ICT/geoinformation – Geographical field is undergoing a revolution. Information business or no business at all. Role of IT in Geography needs a new model which can be the vehicle to attain unity without uniformity.

European Geographers have been afraid to touch the issue. Have Geographers been addressing the wrong audience?

Different processes and models

Fitting individual ‘geographical senses’ – force is ICT – towards Europeanisation

What do we want to do with Geography?

Geography in Society: Need for Geoinformation skills in Society

Who should we be addressing?

Need for geoinformation in Geography

Ask for chapter for the GIS book – europeanising geoinformation

Stelian Dimitrov, Impact of Europeanisation in Bulgarian HE

Change of curriculum from Sovietisation to Europeanisation

Enthusiasm from young, many new postgraduate level courses

Geography programs introduced in English

Student survey: on employment, shrinking geography in schools, fewer teachers,

Geography graduates unemployment.

Language issues ... English

Continuing education in EU

Positive changes but pessimistic about external

Impact on Bulgarian universities of mobility overseas

Need to promote/understand Geography in Society

Experience another country – universities must be competitive

Economic impacts – mobility of expertise and trained – need to think on societal level, too many drawn to the UK, integration of international students in society

Exchange opportunities at the Masters level – need to develop comparative studies = need to establish bilateral, reciprocal programmes

Distance Learning opportunities to collaborate and combine

Dominance of English language and issues which need to be addressed

Teacher exchanges through Comenius programmes – hard to get UK teachers involved – issues of legal and safety issues

American not English = solution in Wales, right to have education in Welsh

Ask for draft paper to put online

European – issue of language pillar

Maria Villanueva, Mireia Baylina – University of Barcelona

TUNING results from Spain. National initiative, decided to do a national survey.

Barcelona co-ordinate this survey requested by the Ministry of Education. Full survey done in Spain in all universities with a Geography degree.

Decline of Geography students, Bologna requirements. White Book of the degree Geography and Regional Planning, via universities and professional associations.

White Book of the State of the Art

Collected data on Geographers professional activities

Training requirements for professional geographers

Design guidelines of new curriculum to take account of employability

Amended and adapted TUNING survey
212 universities, 40 employers, 165 graduates. Hard to find employers.
Professional profiles in terms of employability
Shortages in training obtained during the Geography degree
Cultural – leadership, international context and languages – lowest importance
Content to tackle current problems
Human and regional balance important
Labour market gaps – GI and regional planning
Proposal to develop new degree structure for Spain = 65% compulsory, 5% optional, 30% locally determined
TUNING may be a useful tool but resultant changes will perhaps be small
Contact TUNING expert about employers
Identify gaps = reinforce curriculum
Write paper for the network book on the process

Paul Rooney and Kevin Crawford, UK Pilot TUNING Survey

UK Geography not strong. Secondary Geography low profile, recruitment in higher education in decline. 70 higher education institutions deliver courses, many contracting or closing. Growth in postgraduate provision, many international. Issue of data protection act in getting survey data.

Low:

Profession in practice
Knowledge of other languages
Capacity for generating new ideas
Leadership
Entrepreneurial spirit

What data to collect?

Issue how to get data

How much data?

Survey Issues

Length, Repetition, Complexity, Clarity and Terminology, Answers perceived as what we want, Understanding of what Geography is, Relevance and Method of contact.

Information has been provided from France, Iceland, Slovakia, Poland, Malta and Estonia. Other issues discussed included:

- **Students very keen to be involved**
- **Academics less easy**
- **Employers very low response rate**
- **Incomplete survey responses**

Undergraduate or postgraduate?

Who is the employer?

Don't know what is Geography (issue here of definition and description as vast diversity of employers many not involved in Geography, yet they employ geographers). Need to increase awareness.

Email to John Reilly on TUNING

Martin Haigh Greening the European Curriculum

UN decade for sustainable development

2005 – Education for European Citizenship

What knowledge skills and attitudes

How can they be developed

How can people transmit knowledge, skills and attitudes

What sort of future should we be preparing students for? Still nationalistic.

Need Values, Appreciation, Responsibility

Education the key, Geography has a clear role it MUST play

Recommend review of curriculum = TP research

Create relevant learning modules = European funds?

Reconnect with environment = fieldwork as relevant exciting geography

Collect examples of relevant good practise

Review possible ways ahead = report and recommend.

Europe of knowledge

Make statement on environment

Ask Martin for article

Role of Geography in Planning Education: Arild Holt-Jenson

The Market for Geography graduates

Teacher Education in many cases – diversifying into planning education

Strength of Finnish Geography, weakness of Geography in US

Geographical contributions to planning – environmental monitoring, landscape, spatial science, applied, place analysis

Understanding of place – Nature – Social – Meaning (culture)

What Geography for society? What Geography does society need?

Should Geography and Planning be included a route to a European Dimension?

What sort of Planning?

Needs of Europe

Relevance of Planning in a European Dimension

Request article – case study of good practise NEHOM project

Maria Rellou and Nikos Lambrinos, Geography Curriculum in a United Europe

State of Geography in schools

Differences – time schedule and approaches

National Geography Standards – US content and approaches

Place use differs (slide 19)

Focus on different European cultures

School Geography core – school Geography very fragmented

Generic core = proposed

European Geography Association = identity crisis

Request article on Geography in schools curriculum

EU bids

What curriculum should be included in the European Dimension?

What approach should be promoted?

What method of delivery?

Dancing with Gorillas, Paul Redmond

Profile of Geography graduates and employability

Drivers of change

Image more important than content

Brand rights of Geography

Name and visual style of the organisation

What lives on are the brands.

Massive range of jobs

Sets our discussions in context

What does Geography provide for students to be employable?

Role for HERODOT – image of Geography

Can Paul write up the paper?

Geography and employability of graduates in Spain, Jose Somoza Medina

Changes in position and status of Geography

Huge growth in the number of universities

Main motivation of the students = becoming a teacher, no longer a compulsory subject, declining needs.

Redefine professional profiles of Geographers – Official Professional

Geographers Association – established by law in 1999

3 professional profiles

- geoinformation technologies
- environment
- regional planning
- knowledge society
- socio-economic and spatial development

Usefulness of degree not accepted by students.

Geography needs to be compulsory in school = geographic culture as an identity as part of the EU – concept of Geography wisdom.

Bachelors Degree – general approach to Geography

Postgraduate – more detailed – with specialisation

Juri Roosaare – Graduate Employability in Estonia

Changes, competition from other related areas (agriculture, geology)

Position in employment

Magnifriduur Juliusdottir Employability of graduates in Iceland

Small country, few Geographers, impression of teacher

Perception that not enough specialist skills to enter the labour market.

Little data and information, technical or academic training? Professional identity of Geography important at a disadvantage with respect to Geology.

Don't use the title of Geographer in profession.

Write up employability papers

Publication? Book – case studies of good practise

Recommend research and publication of the state of geography graduates and employment prospects in Europe

Daniela Schmeinck - Benchmarking in teacher education in Germany

Nothing yet, but starting to work on it, impact of poor Pisa results.

Kerncurriculum (2004)

1. Discipline-based and subject orientated reflection and communication competence
2. Basic competences in subject didactics (also based on general education)
3. Subject-based didactical competences in operating and evaluating education processes (Masters level)

Framework being developed for education at school not for teacher education

Formulation and definition of competence sages

Agreement on/or setting of standards reached by whole country

Development and systematisation of tasks and or evaluation forms to reach the standards.

Need to be aware of change and provide advice and guidance

Kevin Crawford – Benchmarking in the UK

Benchmarking and improvement of quality of higher education

At Liverpool, curriculum redesigned to match expertise and ideas from the benchmarking statements

From the 1997 Dearing Report – standards as part of the degree programme and approval of institutions

3 levels – certificate – diploma - degree

Not about creating a national curriculum – acknowledge differences and diversity within agreed limits set by the subject itself

Design new degree programme – new curriculum – new modules = 3 year process

Mapped against student skills, abilities and aptitudes = thresholds

Voice of the student, professionals and practice not incorporated

Model of European module and course development

Rob van de Vaart – Benchmarking in the Netherlands

Environment for mutual learning = learning from initiatives

Competitive European ‘masters’ space

Exchange

Harmonisation / common dimensions - appropriate use of ICT

Collaboration on joint programmes

Issue of Joint degrees, joint accreditation and awards, Erasmus Mundus

TUNING – national surveys

Slightly simplified, modified survey

Deadline 1st December

existing countries complete sample ... 25 academics, employers,

Poland, UK, Malta, Spain, Estonia, Iceland, Slovakia, France

new countries – do survey

Italy, Germany, Netherlands, Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal, Norway

Poland	Italy
UK	Norway
Malta	Germany
Spain	Portugal
Estonia	Greece
Iceland	Bulgaria
France	Netherlands
Slovakia	

Geography in Europe:

What is Europeanisation? What is a European Dimension?

What are the key features?

Process – culture – belonging

Language issue

Exchange and mobility – real and virtual

Need to include awareness and communication – to combat racism

Statement on redefining the position of Geography in Europe

Conference (Tartu) - September 2005 – theme??

What Geography does European society need? Benchmarks and QAA

What Geography for European society? Benchmarks and QAA

Employability Issues

Recommend research and publication of the state of the employability of geography graduates and employment needs in Europe and employability issues

Case studies of what works

Book of employability and Geography in Europe

Prestige of the disciplines – (exciting Geography and) ICT

Professional

Role of HERODOT

- **What make Geography in Europe special? European Dimension**
- **Prepare document for the Council of Europe: implication of what state of Geography shows = major gaps in European Dimension – Sustainability – geoinformation etc., need for standards, quality resources and the needs for Europe for the European Dimension**
- **Critical Issues such as: the importance of geoinformation in Geography, sustainability agenda,**
- **Publications**
 - **State of the Art of Geography in Europe**

- GIS best practice book
- Geography survival and employability book
- Case studies of good practise
- Language issues – exchanges – European Pillar
- Define the role of Geography – benchmarking
- The identity/image of Geography – formation of European Geography Association = European Cert. Geographer? Talk to RGS
- Issue of Joint degrees, joint accreditation and awards, Erasmus Mundus, provide advice

Future of HERODOT

Exchange – lectures, materials, courses, advice FAQ, promoting exchange

European module = European Dimension
 Student mutual perspectives of Europe
 Comparison leading to understanding
 Respect for diversity

Student meeting

Design an EU module
 Students working on an IP

Comenius teacher training course for teachers – Geography and the European Dimension

Joint Projects on Issues in Europe
 Greening
 Racism
 Citizenship
 ICT in Geography

Masters level – incorporating working in different European organisations
 Working as a Geographer
 Geography in the workplace
 Leonardo da Vinci
 Vocational Masters level = or workplace training

6th Framework
 Research Projects (IST) Geographical Technology
 Network of Excellence
 EGIS Group

To Do:

Remind Steve Gaskin about summary from Sofia

Need Mark Wise and Maria Villanueva, Magnifriduur presentations and writeups

Email Maria Attard about TUNING survey

Lily Kong

Arthur Kelly – Primary Geography research - send materials and make appointment - Daniela Schmeinck

daniela.schmeinck@web.de